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**AMENDMENT(S) TO THE CLAIMS:**

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims on the application. All claims are set forth below with one of the following annotations.

- (Original): Claim filed with the application.
- (Currently amended): Claim being amended in the current amendment paper.
- (Canceled): Claim cancelled or deleted from the application. No claim text is shown.
- (Withdrawn): Claim still in the application, but in a non-elected status.
- (New): Claim being added in the current amendment paper.
- (Previously presented): Claim added or amended in an earlier amendment paper.
- (Not entered): Claim presented in a previous amendment, but not entered or whose entry status unknown. No claim text is shown.

**Claims**

1. (Currently amended) An apparatus for playback of multi-channel sound signals with at least two channels including substantially orthogonal spatialisation characteristics, said apparatus comprising:
  - a decoder for converting said multi-channel sound signals into a series of speaker outputs for virtual speakers placed in pre-determined positions around a listener and projecting sound towards a listener, with the projection direction of at least two of said virtual speakers being substantially orthogonal;
  - a single speaker cabinet; and
  - a multiplicity of speaker elements arranged around said cabinet, said speaker elements coupled with predetermined ones of said series of speaker outputs, with at least two of said speaker elements having substantially orthogonal projection directions from said single

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speaker cabinet and being coupled to substantially orthogonal virtual speaker outputs of said decoder, each said orthogonal speaker element arranged to project sound substantially in the opposite direction from the direction of sound projection of the corresponding virtual speaker.

2. (Original) An apparatus as claimed in claim 1 wherein said multi channel sound signals comprise B-format signals.
3. (Original) An apparatus as claimed in claim 1 wherein said speaker cabinet is mounted centrally on a roof in a room.
4. (Currently amended) A method for playback of multi-channel sound signals with at least two channels including substantially orthogonal spatialisation characteristics, on a speaker arrangement, said method comprising the steps of:
  - (a) decoding said signals for a set of virtual speakers placed around a listener so as to produce a set of decoded speaker signals with the projection direction of at least two of said virtual speakers being substantially orthogonal; and
  - (b) projecting said set of decoded speaker signals from a series of closely clustered speakers with at least two of said clustered speakers having substantially orthogonal projection directions and being coupled to corresponding substantially orthogonal virtual speaker decoded speaker signals, each said orthogonal clustered speaker arranged to project sound substantially in the opposite direction from the direction of sound projection of the corresponding virtual speaker.
5. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 4 wherein said multi-channel sound signals comprise B-format signals.
6. (Currently amended) A method of increasing the realism of a sound reproduction, the method comprising the steps of:
  - (a) providing a multi-channel sound recording with different channels having substantially orthogonal spatial components; and
  - (b) projecting from a series of speakers placed in the same cabinet, the substantially orthogonal spatial components, the projecting being in a

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substantially orthogonal projection direction substantially opposite to  
the direction of the corresponding orthogonal spatial components.

7. (Previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 6 wherein said substantially orthogonal spatial components include B-format signal components.

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